

ABSTRACT

Using a Privacy Agreement Framework to Improve Handling of
Personally Identifiable Information

5 The invention entails identifying the parties involved in a
process of handling personally identifiable information;
10 identifying the data involved in said process; classifying the
data; expressing each relationship between each pair of said
parties in terms of a privacy agreement; and representing the
parties, data, and privacy agreements graphically in one or more
privacy agreement relationship diagrams. The invention has the
15 advantage of identifying opportunities to reduce privacy-related
risks, including identifying unnecessary exchanges of data, for
possible elimination, and identifying opportunities to transform
data into a less sensitive form. Privacy agreements are based on
a limited set of privacy-related actions : access, disclose,
20 release, notify, utilize, update, withdrawConsent, giveConsent,
delete, anonymize, depersonalize, and repersonalize. One aspect
of the present invention is a method for improving the handling
of personally identifiable information. Another aspect of the
present invention is a system for executing the method of the
present invention. A third aspect of the present invention is as
25 a set of instructions on a computer-usable medium, or resident
in a computer system, for executing the method of the present
invention.